

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 14-22, and 24-26 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 5-6, 10, 14, 20, 24, and 26 are amended, and claims 2, 7, 11-13, and 23 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 24-26 are allowed, and that claim 23 contains allowable subject matter. The allowable features of claim 23 have been added to claim 20 and claim 23 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claim 20 should be in condition for allowance, along with claims 21-22, which depend therefrom.

The Office Action rejected claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang et al. (hereinafter "Wang"), U.S. Patent No. 6,496,511 in view of Slaughter, III (hereinafter "Slaughter"), U.S. Patent No. 5,598,536, and rejected claims 2 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang in view of Slaughter, and further in view of Figures 1-2 and the corresponding disclosure of the present application. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that said switch unit comprises the call processing unit that determines if a call requires the idle IP address and performs a call process to said internet connection system when a subscriber attempts the call; a number translating unit connected with said call processing unit that translates a destination number input from the

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subscriber; the database connected to said call processing unit to manage the plurality of IP addresses; and the internet connection system unit connected to said database that requests an IP address allocation for connection with said IP service network unit and returns the IP address allocation to said database under the control of the call processing unit when the call is released.

Independent claim 6 has been amended to recite that said switch unit comprises the call processing unit that judges if the call requires an IP address to perform a call process to said internet connection system, when a call connection is attempted by said subscriber; a number translating unit connected to said call processing unit that translates a destination number input from said subscriber; the database connected to said call processing unit that manages the IP address; and the internet connection system connected to said database that sends the IP address allocation request to said database and returns the IP address to said database under the control of the call processing unit when the call is released. Wang and Slaughter, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest such features, or the respective claimed combinations of independent claims 1 and 6.

Referring, for example, to the exemplary embodiment discussed in the present application, upon receiving a destination number from the subscriber 10, the destination number is translated. If it is judged that the internet call needs the IP address, connection to the internet connection system 24a-24n of switching system 20 of Fig. 3 is performed. The internet connection system 24a-24n sends a request for an IP address to the call processing unit 22. In

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response to this request, the call processing unit 22 searches for idle addresses in the database 21 and allocates an idle IP address to the requesting internet connection system 24a-24n.

Further, when a termination of the connection to the IP service network is requested by the pertinent subscriber 10, the call processing unit 22 sends a call release request to the pertinent internet connection system 24a-24n. When the internet service is terminated, the IP address allocated to the pertinent internet connection system is returned to the database, under the control of the call processing unit. Once returned, the IP address is given an idle status.

As Wang and Slaughter, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the claimed features of independent claims 1 and 6, or the respective claimed combinations of independent claims 1 and 6, the rejection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claims 3 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang and Slaughter, in view of a computer article referred to as “Reserved Addresses.” The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Dependent claims 3 and 8 are allowable over the combination of Wang and Slaughter at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 1 and 6, from which they depend, as well as for their respective added features. Further, “Reserved Addresses” fails to overcome the deficiencies of Wang and Slaughter, as it is merely cited for allegedly teaching a flag indicating a validity or invalidity of the corresponding IP address. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 3 and 8 over the combination of Wang, Slaughter, and “Reserved Addresses” should be withdrawn.

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The Office Action rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang and Slaughter. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Dependent claim 5 is allowable over the combination of Wang and Slaughter at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1, from which it depends, as well as for its added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 10-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang and Slaughter. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 10 has been amended to recite connecting a subscriber to an IP service network; requesting a call termination by the subscriber; sending a call release request to the internet connection system from the call processing unit; and releasing a call from the internet connection system and the IP service network. As set forth above, Wang and Slaughter, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest such features. Further, Wang and Slaughter, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the claimed combination of independent claim 10.

Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 10 over the combination of Wang and Slaughter should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 14-19 are allowable over the combination of Wang and Slaughter at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 10, from which they depend, as well as for their respective added features.

The Office Action rejected claims 20-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang and Slaughter, and rejected claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable

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over Wang and Slaughter, in view of "Reserved Addresses." The rejections are moot in view of the amendments discussed above.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: November 22, 2005

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